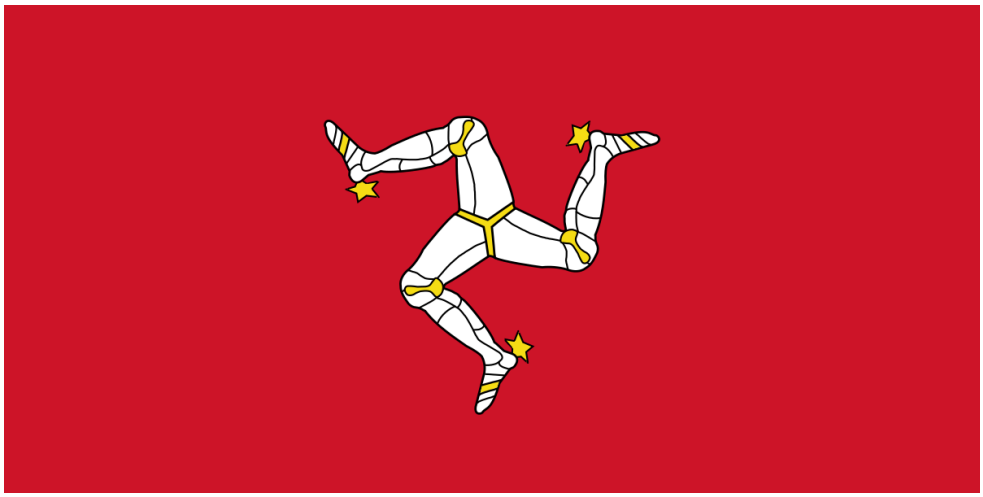
Manx Phrasebook

Composed by Juan Euskalduna



Manx or **Manx Gaelic** (*Gaelg*) is a language spoken in the Isle of Man. It is mostly only used by the minority of the Manx population who can speak it amongst themselves. Most road signs are bilingual, but most placenames are in Manx only. The language is rarely heard in public except in formal situations such as Tynwald Day and on radio shows for Manx speakers. Manx, in common with Scottish Gaelic, is closely related to Irish and shares most of its vocabulary and grammar with these languages. Whilst it shares common grammatical features with Welsh, Cornish and Breton, it shares very little common vocabulary with these languages. There is one Manx medium primary school in the Isle of Man, and most children on the Isle of Man learn some Manx in primary school. Provision for Manx in secondary school is limited, the number of speakers being far higher in schools with strong community links and the highest academic achievement. All native speakers are bilingual (or multilingual).

	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Post-alveolar	Palatal	Palato-velar	Velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b	t̪ d̪	(t) (d)	tʲ dʲ		kʲ gʲ	k g	
Fricative	f v		s	ʃ		ç	x ɣ	h
Nasal	m	n	(n)	nʲ		ŋʲ	ŋ	
Trill			r	rʲ				
Lateral		l	(l)	lʲ				
Semivowel					j		w	

Pronunciation guide

The system Manx uses to spell out its words is very different from that of Irish or Scottish Gaelic, it's most noticeable in the vowels and in the way it uses auxiliary letters. English speakers will find the Manx spelling system much easier than that of Irish or Scottish Gaelic.

Vowels

a â

(Short) Like "a" in "cat", (with circumflex) like "a" in "pale".

e ê

Like "e" in "bed", (with circumflex) like "ea" in "fear".

i î

Like "i" in "pin".

o ô

Like "o" in "hot", (with circumflex) like "oa" in "moat".

u

Like "a" in "cat" or "o" in "hot".

w

Like "u" in "put".

y

Like "u" in "hut" or "i" in "bird". The word *y* is pronounced like the "e" in "bed".

Consonants

b

Like "b" in "bat".

c

Like "c" in "cat".

ch

Like "ch" in "bach".

d

Like "d" in "door".

f

Like "f" in "feet".

g

Like "g" in "get".

h

Like "h" in "hot".

l

Like "l" in "late".

m

Like "m" in "mud".

n

Like "n" in "no".

p

Like "p" in "park".

ph

Like "ph" in "philosopher".

r

Like "r" in "run" but slightly trilled.

s

Like "s" in "sat".

t

Like "t" in "trip".

Common digraphs

aa, ea, ai

Like "ea" in "fear".

ae, oi

Like "i" in "pin".

au, aw, ou, ow

Like "oo" in "food".

ay, ei

Like "e" in "bed".

ee, iy

Like "ee" in "feet".

eo

Like "ayo" in "mayonaise".

eu, iu, ew, iw

Like "you".

ia

Like "ia" in "victoria".

ie

Like "igh" in "high".

io

Like "yo" in "yoke".

oa, ua, wa

Like "wha" in "whack".

oe

Like "owe" in "mower".

oh

Like "oo" in "door".

oo

Like "oo" in "food".

ui, wi

Like "wi" in "with".

çh

Like "ch" in "cheese".

gh

Like "ch" in "bach".

lh, ll

Like "lj" in "ljubljana".

qu

Like "c" in "cat".

rr

Like "r" in "run" but slightly trilled.

sh

Like "sh" in "she".

ss

Like "ss" in "likeness".

th

Like "t" in "trip".

Common trigraphs

aie, eie, eue, oie

Like "ea" in "yeah".

aue, iwe, oue

Like "we" in "wet".

eau, eoi

Like "ai" in "air".

iau

Like "oo" in "food".

ieu, iou

Like "yew".

uiy

Like "we".

woa

Like "wha" in "whack".

çh

Like "ch" in "cheese".

gh, ght

Like "ch" in "bach".

Common tetragraphs

iooa

Like "You what?" without the "t".

Phrase list

Basics

Hello.

Hoi bhoy! . (""*)*

Hello. (*informal*)

Hai. (')

How are you?

Kys t'ou? (*?*)

Fine, thank you.

Braew, gura mie ayd. (')

What is your name?

Cre'n ennym t'ort? (*?*)

My name is _____.

Ta'n ennym orrym _____ . (_____ .)

Nice to meet you.

S'mie lhiam çheet dty whail. (')

Please.

My sailt (')

Thank you.

Gura mie ayd. (')

You're welcome.

She dty vea. (')

Yes.

Ta. (')

No.

Cha nel. (')

Excuse me. (*getting attention*)

Hey bhoy ! / Ya! (')

Excuse me. (*begging pardon*)

Gow my leshtal. (')

I'm sorry.

S'olk lhiam. (**'**)

Goodbye

Slane. (**'**)

Goodbye (*informal*)

Bai. (**'**)

I can't speak Manx [well].

Cha nel monney Gaelg aym (*[]*)

Do you speak English?

Vel Baarle ayd? (*?*)

Is there someone here who speaks English?

Vel peiagh erbee aynshoh toiggal Baarle (*?*)

Help!

Cooin Lhiam (*!*)

Look out!

Er dty hwoaie! (*!*)

Good morning.

Moghrey mie. (**'**)

Good evening.

Fastyr mie. (**'**)

Good night.

Oie vie. (**'**)

Good night (*to sleep*)

Oie vie, caddill dy mie. (**'**)

I don't understand.

Cha nel mee toiggal. (**'**)

Where is the toilet?

C'raad ta'n premmee? (**'**)

friend

Bey

Numbers

½ - lieh

0 - neunhee

1 - nane

2 - jees

3 - tree

4 - kiare

5 - queig

6 - shey

7 - shiaght

8 - hoght

9 - nuy

10 - jeih

11 - nane-jeig

12 - daa-yeig

20 - feed

21 - feed nane

22 - feed jees

50 - queigad

100 - keead

200 - daa cheead

1000 - tousane

5000 - queig tousane

Common signs

OPEN
Foshlit

CLOSED
Dooint

ENTRANCE
Entreilys

EXIT
Dorrys magh

PUSH
Seiy

PULL
Tayrn

TOILET
Premmee / Thie veg

MEN
Deiney

WOMEN
Mraane

FORBIDDEN
Neulhiggit

For reading about Manx all the way to the end, you've earned yourself one (1) penny. I guess the saying was wrong, ezta?

A very special thank you to the good folks at Wikitravel for most of the information sourced here.

The information provided here is considered to be in the public domain in the United States and may be used freely by anyone for any purpose. No copyright protection is claimed in original U.S. Government works.

While the content is free of known copyright restrictions, other laws, such as those related to privacy or publicity rights, may still apply to certain uses. The provider makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding the status or use of this material and disclaims all liability for any damages resulting from its use.

Attribution to the original source for much of this information, Wikitravel, is appreciated.

I LOVE YOU WIKIMEDIA